

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as currently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 7-18, and 20-23 are currently pending. Claim 17 is amended and Claim 19 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer by the present amendment. No new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Bang et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,956,019). However, Claims 19 and 20 were objected to as dependent on a rejected base claim, but otherwise were indicated as including allowable subject matter if rewritten in independent form. Claims 1-4, 7-16, and 21-23 are allowed.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of Claims 1-4, 7-16, and 21-23 and the indication that Claims 19 and 20 include allowable subject matter.

With regard to the rejection of Claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Bang, Claim 17 is amended to include the subject matter of Claim 19. As Claim 19 was indicated as including allowable subject matter, Claim 17 (and Claims 18 and 20 dependent therefrom) is allowable.

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Reply to Office Action of February 21, 2006

Accordingly, in view of the indication of allowable subject matter and the amendments made to the claims, the pending claims are believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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